

AMENDMENTS TO THE DRAWINGS

The attached set of "Replacement Sheets" of drawings includes a change to Figure 4a. The attached set of "Replacement Sheets," which includes Figures 1-3, 4a-b, 5, and 6, replaces the original sheets including Figures 1-3, 4a-b, 5, and 6.

Attachment: Replacement Sheets

REMARKS

Claims 1-20 are now pending in the application. Claim 11 is cancelled herein. Claims 1, 9, and 12-15 are amended herein. No new matter is added. The Examiner is respectfully requested to reconsider and withdraw the rejections in view of the amendments and remarks contained herein.

DRAWINGS

The Office Action indicates the drawings filed on March 23, 2004, are accepted. Applicant, however, recognized that the reference number 12 for the "supporting disk" was inadvertently missing in Figure 4a. Support for reference number 12 can be found at least in the specification on page 10 (lines 22, 23, and 27) and page 11 (lines 6 and 16), as well as in claims 1, 5, and 20. Therefore, Applicant has amended Figure 4a to include reference indicia 12. Applicant has also made all of the drawings formal and has attached the formal drawings for the Examiner's approval.

REJECTION UNDER 35 U.S.C. § 102

Claims 1, 2, 4, 6, 9, and 19 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by Buchi (U.S. Pat. No. 2,995,293). This rejection is respectfully traversed.

As corrected in the amended claims above, Buchi '293 fails to teach, anticipate, or render obvious, utilizing a tab which is placed in the casing, which essentially extends in the circumferential direction in the compression space, and a guide edge formed by the tab in a lateral projection, which forms different angles with the bottom reference surface of the fan. These elements of the present invention have been included in claim

1, and were originally disclosed; therefore, no new matter has been added to the application. Furthermore, since claims 2, 4, 6, 9, and 19 are dependant upon, and at least as limiting in subject matter to claim 1, they too should be in condition for allowance. Examiner's withdrawal of this rejection is respectfully requested.

REJECTION UNDER 35 U.S.C. § 103

Claims 7, 8, and 10 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Buchi in view of Fujita et al. (U.S. Pat. No. 5,964,576). This rejection is respectfully traversed.

For the sake of brevity, Applicant has stated above that claim 1 is presently amended to include the allowable subject matter of claim 11, which describes utilizing a tab which is placed in the casing, which essentially extends in the circumferential direction in the compression space, and a guide edge formed by the tab in a lateral projection, which forms different angles with the bottom reference surface of the fan. Claim 11 has been cancelled. Neither Buchi ('293) alone or in combination with Fujita et al. ('576) teaches, anticipates, nor renders obvious this crucial feature of Applicant's present invention. Since claims 7, 8, and 10 are dependent upon independent claim 1 and are at least as limited in subject matter, Applicant believes this rejection has been overcome and reconsideration and withdrawal of the present rejection on claims 7, 8, and 10 are respectfully requested.

ALLOWABLE SUBJECT MATTER


The Examiner states that claims 3, 5, 11-18, and 20 would be allowable if rewritten in independent form. Accordingly, Applicant has amended claim 1 to include the subject matter of claim 11, which has been cancelled herein. Subsequent dependent claims 12-16 and 18-20 have been amended to reflect the proper amended parental claim reference. Therefore, claims 1-10 and 12-20 should now be in condition for allowance.

CONCLUSION

It is believed that all of the stated grounds of rejection have been properly traversed, accommodated, or rendered moot. Applicant therefore respectfully requests that the Examiner reconsider and withdraw all presently outstanding rejections. It is believed that a full and complete response has been made to the outstanding Office Action and the present application is in condition for allowance. Thus, prompt and favorable consideration of this amendment is respectfully requested. If the Examiner believes that personal communication will expedite prosecution of this application, the Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned at (248) 641-1600.

Respectfully submitted,

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